

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 29, as follows:

In accordance with exemplary embodiments of the present invention, spreading profile controller 106 generates a desired value M_{DES} for the divisor, M , according to a spreading profile, such as a triangular profile, as described subsequently. Spreading profile controller 106 receives one or more spreading parameters, an “ON” signal indicating spreading is enabled, a select signal to select one of a plurality of spreading profiles, and either the reference clock signal REF_CLK or feedback clock signal FB_CLK. For preferred embodiments of the present invention, spreading profile controller 106 receives the feedback clock signal FB_CLK to allow for proper timing between generation of the divisor, M , and the fractional division of the VCO output signal VCO_{OUT}. Spreading profile controller 106 generates a sequence of values-desired values for M_{DES} in real time in accordance with a specified input function that defines the spreading profile by one or more spreading parameters, such as modulation rate, modulation depth, and contour coefficients. For example, if varying the frequency up and down linearly, the slope and direction (up/down in frequency or about a mean) might be provided as spreading parameters. The spreading profile defines slewing of the VCO’s output signal frequency across a predefined range of frequencies. Spreading profile controller 106 might be implemented with a microprocessor, state machine, or other form of processor.

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 6, as follows:

FIG. 5 shows an exemplary method for implementing the quantized triangular spreading profile of FIG. 4. At step 501, an optional test determines whether spreading is enabled, or “ON” and whether the spreading profile controller should generate M values so as to cause the PLL to slew the output frequency in accordance with the spreading profile. If the test of step 501 determines that spreading is not “ON,” then the method-method advances to step 508. At step 508, the method suspends calculating divisor values. From step 508, the method returns to step 501, essentially waiting for spreading to be enabled. If the test of step 501 determines that spreading is “ON,” the method advances to step 502.